

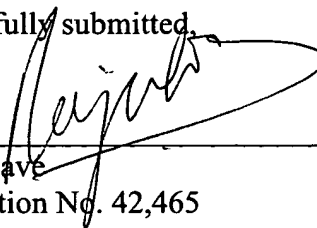
REMARKS

Claims 2-6 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner's position is that the method steps are devoid of the provision of a source of magnesium into the sample and therefore, as worded, the claims are incomplete. Applicants respectfully submit that the specification clearly explains on page 6, lines 6 and 7 that "the natural coral always contains magnesium ions." Thus, the source of magnesium is the coral sample, which is recited in claim 2. In any case, claim 2 has been amended to explicitly recite "wherein the coral sample comprises magnesium ions." In light of this Amendment, the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, should be withdrawn.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 300602004100.

Respectfully submitted,



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